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PLAY AND LEARN

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NATIONAL READING
CAMPAIGN

THOMAS & FRIENDS

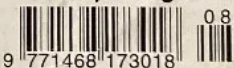
**Thomas Taken
Inside!**



**THOMAS
& FRIENDS**

No.008 £1.35

**19th Apr-2nd May 2000
Every Fortnight**



08

activities colouring stories

CE Complies with EN71 (toy safety). Not suitable for children under 3 years due to small parts. Caution: Colours may stain - take precautions to protect clothes and furnishings. Supplied by Veritywide Ltd.

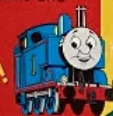
Stations!



Take your child on a stimulating journey of learning and discovery with Thomas the Tank Engine and his friends!

Play and Learn Thomas and Friends magazine is full of activities and stories involving children's favourite Thomas characters. It is a valuable companion to Key Stage 1 programmes of study and will introduce children to the skills required in English, Mathematics and Art in an entertaining and fun way. The simple activities and stories are also designed to teach children basic moral and social skills and are all based on the findings of academic research.

Learning is fun with Thomas and friends!



In this issue...

- | | |
|---|--|
| <p>3 Thomas' Read Aloud Story: Stations, Stations, Stations!
James finds out that it's not only steam engines who are important enough to have stations!</p> <p>6 Henry's Counting Time!
Percy visits Ffarquhar station!</p> <p>8 Today's Trains
Looking at a real train</p> <p>10 Look and Learn with Terence
Learn all about stations!</p> <p>12 Annie's Alphabet
How many things can you spot that begin with 's'?</p> <p>13 Count with Gordon
Lots of Sodor station staff for you to count</p> <p>14 Colouring Fun with James
Brighten up the picture with your free paints!</p> | <p>16 Pull-out Poster
A splendid poster for you to pull out and keep!</p> <p>18 Match the pairs with Bill and Ben
Can you help sort out The Fat Controller's photos?</p> <p>19 Percy's Pictures
Finish the picture, then colour it in!</p> <p>20 Follow with Diesel
Show James the way to the shed!</p> <p>22 Percy's Postbag
Your letters and pictures</p> <p>24 Look and Find with Toby!
Things to find at the station!</p> <p>28 A Special Story About The Fat Controller
A rhyming story for you to read!</p> <p>30 Skarloey's Shapes
Can you find all the shapes in the big picture</p> |
|---|--|

PLAY AND LEARN THOMAS AND FRIENDS is published fortnightly by Egmont Railways Ltd. 25/31 Tavistock Place, London WC1H 9SU. Tel: 020 7344 6400. Editor: Claire Mewell. Design: Read Creative. Managing Editor: Steve MacKenzie. Marketing Manager: Douglas Pocock. Advertising: Steven Goldsmith. Production: Sarah Colley. BRIT ALLCROFT'S THOMAS THE TANK ENGINE & FRIENDS based on the Railway Series by the Rev W Awdry © 1984 Allcroft Thomas Limited 2000. All underlying rights worldwide Brit Allcroft (Thomas) LLC. THOMAS THE TANK ENGINE & FRIENDS and THOMAS & FRIENDS are trademarks of Brit Allcroft. It is in the USA, Mexico and Canada and of Brit Allcroft (Thomas) Limited in the rest of the world. THE BRIT ALLCROFT COMPANY is a trademark of The Brit Allcroft Company plc. So licensed by arrangement with Egmont Children's Books Limited, London. Photographs © Brit Allcroft. Institution is intended, and any such similarity which may exist is purely coincidental. Reproduction without permission strictly forbidden. Play and Learn Thomas and Friends must not be sold for more than the price shown on the cover. Printed in the UK by Goodhead Print Group, Bicester. Back issues: Dept BW, 25-31 Tavistock Place, London, WC1H 9SU. Tel: 020 7344 6444 Mon-Thurs only between 10am-12pm and 2pm-4pm. Distributed by Seymour, 88 Newman Street, London W1H 3LD. Tel: 020 7396 8000. Origination by DL Repro. ISSN: 1466-1730. Subscriptions: Tel: 01793 414899. To ensure continued quality of service we may occasionally monitor or record telephone calls made to Play and Learn Thomas and Friends magazine.

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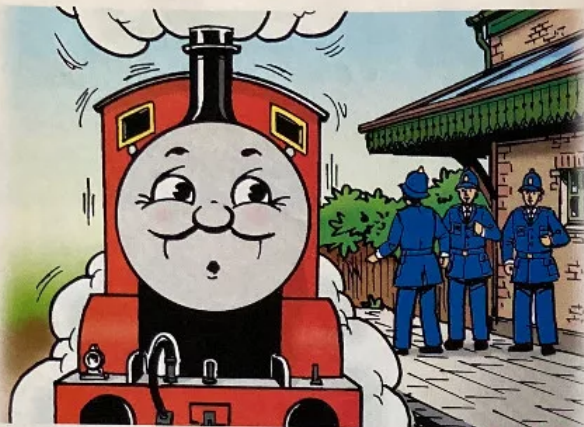


Stations, Stations, Stations!



1. "Come on, James, I'm going to borrow you all day," said The Fat Controller. James was very pleased. "You can always rely on a steam engine, Sir! After all, only steam engines are important enough to have stations!" he puffed grandly.

2. The Fat Controller grinned as he boarded James' first carriage, "I wouldn't say only engines have stations, James, my car has broken down at a petrol station!" James frowned, "Oh yes, I forgot about petrol stations!"



3. At the first stop, three police officers climbed on board. "It's nice to have a day away from the police station!" said one of them. James pulled a face, "Oh yes, there are police stations too!"



4. Then, at the next stop, two fire fighters boarded. "We couldn't all come, we had to leave somebody to look after the fire station!" they said. James huffed, "Oh, there's the fire station too!"

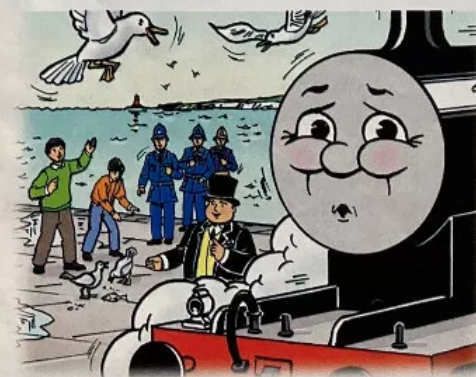


5. James took The Fat Controller, the policemen and the fire fighters to a brand new railway station near the sea. An ambulance was already waiting outside the station and the ambulance drivers came out to meet James' passengers.



6. James smiled, "I know, you've come from the ambulance station! But what's going on here?" The Fat Controller explained, "These men are here to check the new railway station is safe before we open it!"

7. James looked thoughtful. "Why do we need a new station here?" he said. "Lots of people like to come and visit the old Lifeboat Station over there, and others like to come and see the birds at the feeding station!" The Fat Controller explained.



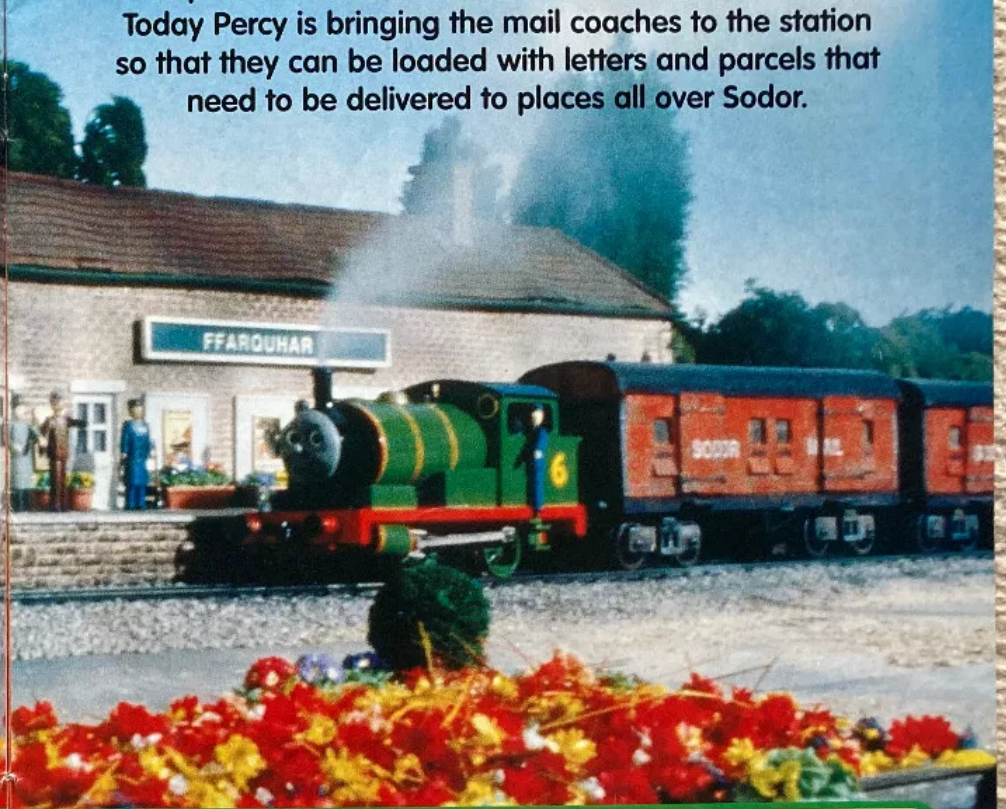
8. James looked at the Lifeboat Station and the busy feeding station and groaned, "Stations, stations, stations! Whoever said only engines were important enough for stations!"





Henry's Counting Time

Ffarquhar station is a small station near Sodor Quarry. Today Percy is bringing the mail coaches to the station so that they can be loaded with letters and parcels that need to be delivered to places all over Sodor.



How many of each of these things can you spot in the picture?
Write the numbers in the circles.

mail coaches

cars

station signs

people

Today's Trains

This is a picture of two trains waiting at Charing Cross station in London.
Do you think this photograph was taken during the **day** or at **night**?

Milepost 92 1/2

ADVERTISEMENT

THOMAS THE TANK ENGINE & FRIENDS

THE TRAIN NOW ARRIVING



Not suitable for babies under 6 months

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Looking at Stations!

All these people are waiting on the station platform for their train to arrive.

Look at the clock. What time is it?



Milepost 92½



Milepost 92½

These people have used the train to travel from the countryside to the big city of London.

How many people can you see?

Here is a picture of King's Cross station in north London.

What colour is the bus?



Milepost 92½



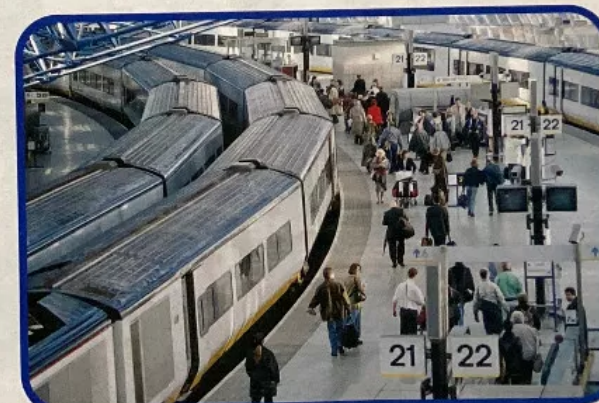
Milepost 92½

This large sign tells people where they can find things at the station.

Can you point to the picture of an aeroplane?

These trains have arrived at Waterloo station ready to take passengers to places all around the south and west of England.

How many trains can you see?



Milepost 92½



S for Station

Station begins with the letter **s**. How many other things beginning with the letter **s** can you see in this picture?



Answers: Sun, hot, swimming costume, seagull, smoke, station, master, shorts, sand, Sodor, station.

Station Staff!

Lots of different people work at the stations all over the island of Sodor. How many people can you count in each row?



guards



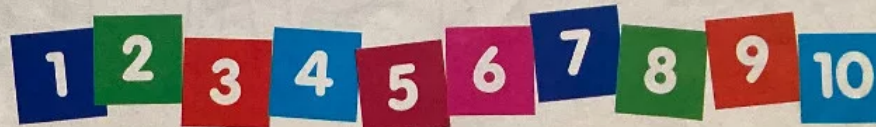
ticket office staff



flower sellers



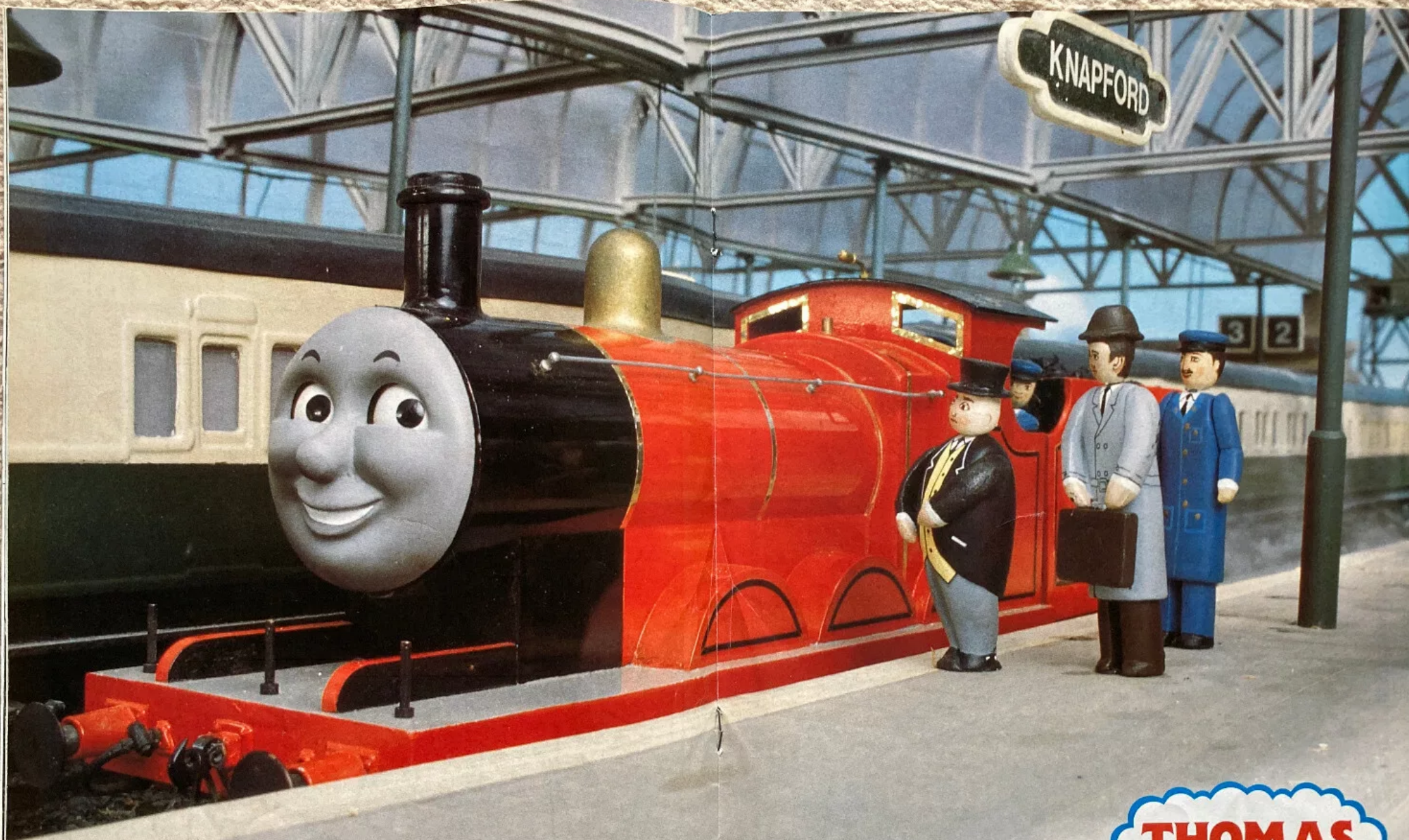
station masters





Painting Fun!





James

**THOMAS
& FRIENDS**



Match with Bill and Ben



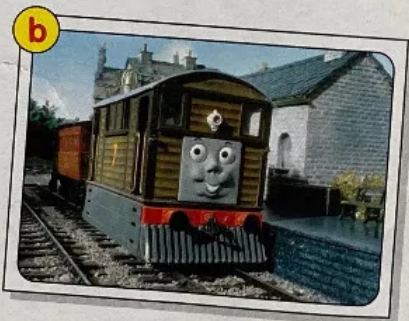
Stephen and Bridget have been looking through The Fat Controller's photo album but they've muddled up some of the pictures. Can you help them by matching each sentence with the right picture?

1 Toby and Henrietta

2 Percy at Dryaw station

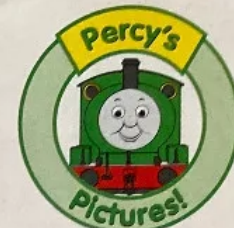
3 Thomas and the flower seller

4 Tidmouth Hault wins Best Dressed Station award!



Answers: 1-b, 2-a, 3-d, 4-c

What's the Time?



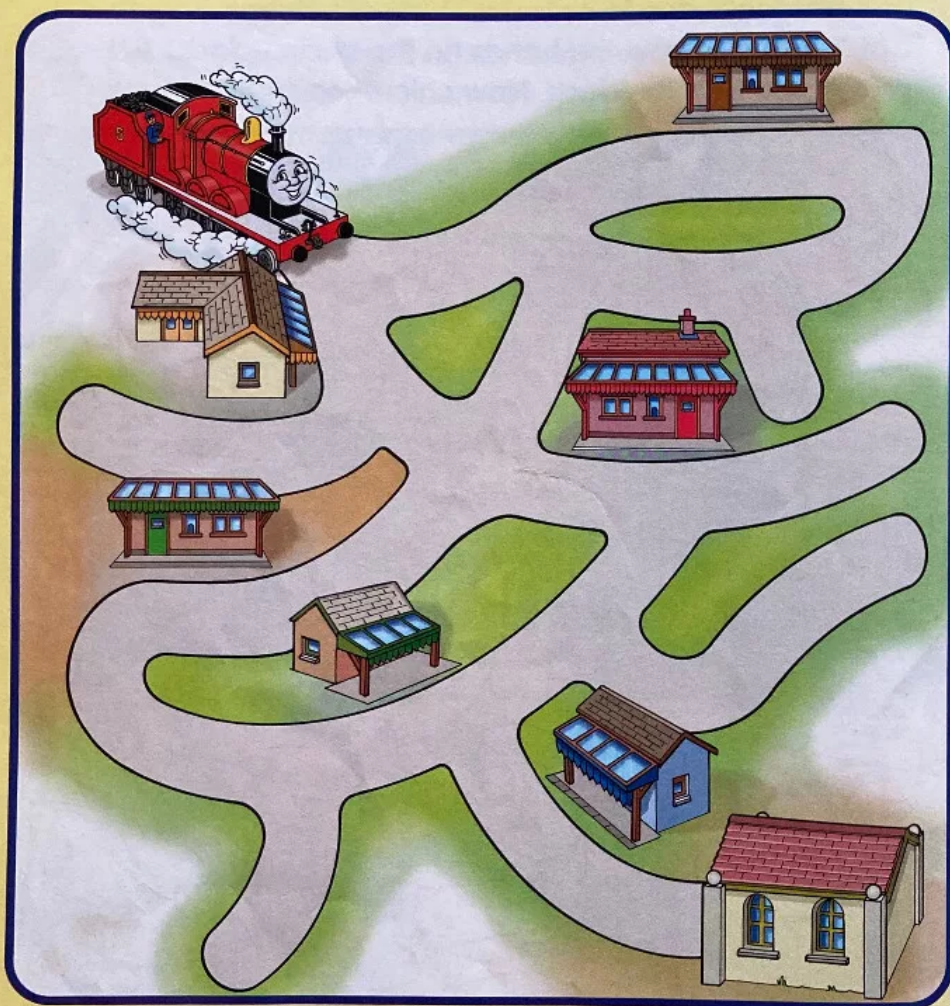
Gordon is due to arrive at Tidmouth station at 3 o'clock. Draw the hands on the station clock so that it shows 3 o'clock. Now colour the picture in.





Station Race

Using your finger or a pencil, show James the quickest way back to the engine shed.



How many stations did James pass on the way?



THE HERO OF MANY A STORY



Britt
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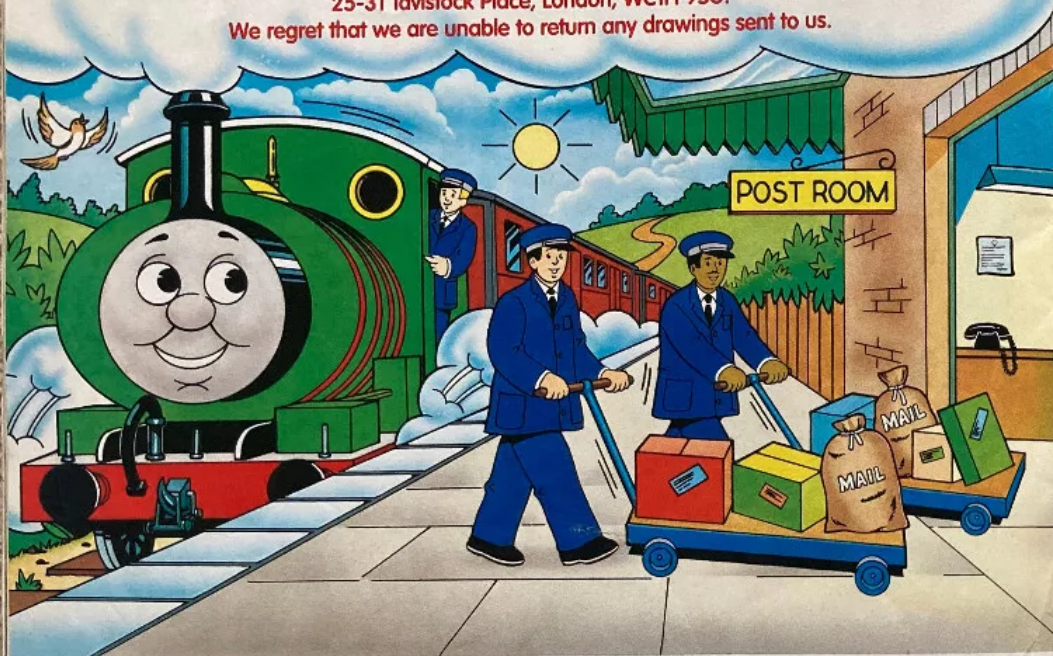
WHICH ONE'S YOUR FAVOURITE?

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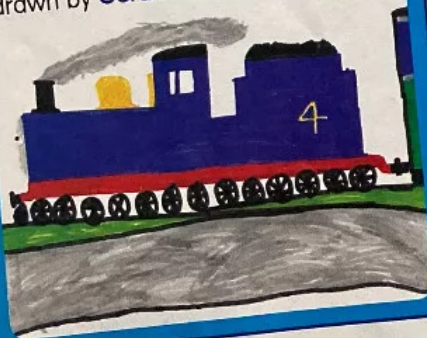


Percy's Postbag

Send your drawings to: Percy's Postbag, Play and Learn Thomas and Friends,
25-31 Tavistock Place, London, WC1H 9SU.
We regret that we are unable to return any drawings sent to us.

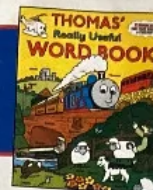


This colourful picture of Gordon was
drawn by **Geraint Powell** from Powys.



It's another sunny day on Sodor!
By **Patrick Taylor**, aged 5.

Every reader whose picture appears
on this page wins a copy of Thomas'
Really Useful Word Book from
Egmont Children's Books.



Star Letter



Dear Fat Controller

I came to see you and Thomas on the West
Somerset Railway. Thomas gave me a ride and
you let me try on your top hat! I had a great day.

Love from **Jonathan Rapson**, aged 3.

Dear Jonathon,

Yes, I remember that day. I had a good time, too!

From The Fat Controller.

If we print your Star letter, you
will receive a fantastic model
of Harold the Helicopter
from Racing Champions.



COLLECT THOMAS TOKENS

You'll find Thomas Tokens on all sorts of Thomas food products in the
supermarket and one in every issue of Play and Learn Thomas and Friends.
Collect them to earn great rewards including
FREE Thomas collectable posters. You can
even save up to 50% on selected items from
the Thomas Catalogue, the UK's largest selection of
Thomas goodies.



Get your collector's card today! Simply call 01403 242727 or
write to Thomas Tokens, PO Box 142, Horsham RH13 5FJ.



Thomas Token

Ask an adult to cut out
the token for you!

Thomas is taking his coaches
to the station in this picture by
James Soares, aged 5.



Percy's reached the end of the
line! By **Stephen Warke**, aged 4.

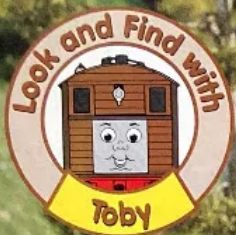


The Fat Controller would
like to say Happy
Birthday to... **Richard
Williams**, aged 6.
Matthew Barks,
aged 2. **Daniel Ward**,
aged 4. **Connor
Jesson**, aged 1.

Christopher Thompson,
aged 2. **Rebecca Mailes**, aged 5. **Taylor
Williamson**, aged 3. **Alfie Hopkinson**, aged 2.

Belated Birthday wishes to...
Bradley Wilson, aged 4.

If you'd
like a birthday mention, send
details at least 16 weeks in advance,
on a postcard please, to the address
at the top of the page.



At the Station

Peter Sam and Duke have stopped at a small countryside station in Sodor to pick up supplies and deliver them to the quarry.



Tick the circles as you find each thing in the big picture.



Sodor!



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If you subscribe to **Play and Learn Thomas and Friends** magazine you won't have to worry about buying your copy of the **Play and Learn Thomas and Friends** magazine for a whole year - it will be sent straight to your door!

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Day out with Thomas

Don't miss the next Thomas day out nearest you!

April 21 - 24

East Anglian Railway Museum, Colchester. Tel: (01206) 242524
Embsay Railway, North Yorkshire. Tel: (01756) 710614
Gwili Railway, Camarthen, South Wales. Tel: (01267) 230666

April 21 - May 1

Mid-Hants Watercress Line, Alresford, Hants. Tel: (01962) 733810

April 22 - 24

Cholsey and Wallingford Railway, Wallingford. Tel: (01491) 835067

April 29 - May 1

Strathspey Railway, Grampian. Tel: (01479) 810725
North Norfolk Railway, Norfolk. Tel: (01263) 822045
Foxfield Railway, Stoke-on-Trent. Tel: (01782) 396210
South Devon Railway, Buckfastleigh. Tel: (01364) 642338
East Lancashire Railway, Bury. Tel: (0161) 7647790
Chinnor and Princes Risborough Railway, Oxon. Tel: (01844) 273535

The Britt Allcroft Company Telephone: (02380) 331661

Be sure to check out the Thomas website!
www.thomasthetankengine.com

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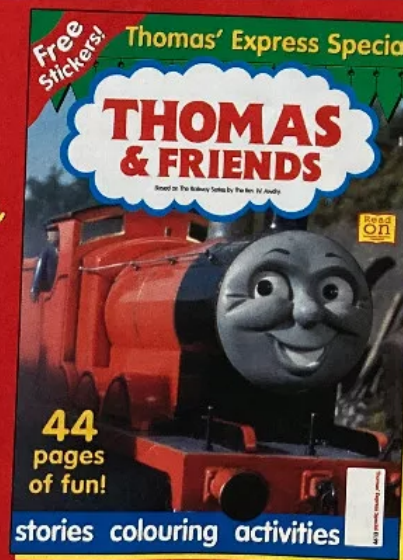


THOMAS & FRIENDS

Look out for Thomas' Express Special!

It's packed with a specially selected collection of stories, activities, colouring and fun!

On sale now at all leading supermarkets and newsagents!
Only £1.99!



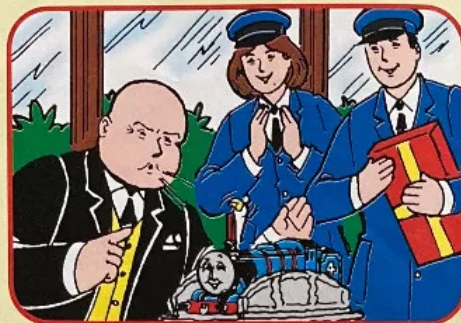
Free
Splendid stickers!

THOMAS & FRIENDS

A Special Story About The Fat Controller



It was The Fat Controller's birthday,
on the morning of the twelfth,



he made a very special wish,
but he kept it to himself!



He was fed up with just watching,
all the engines come and go...



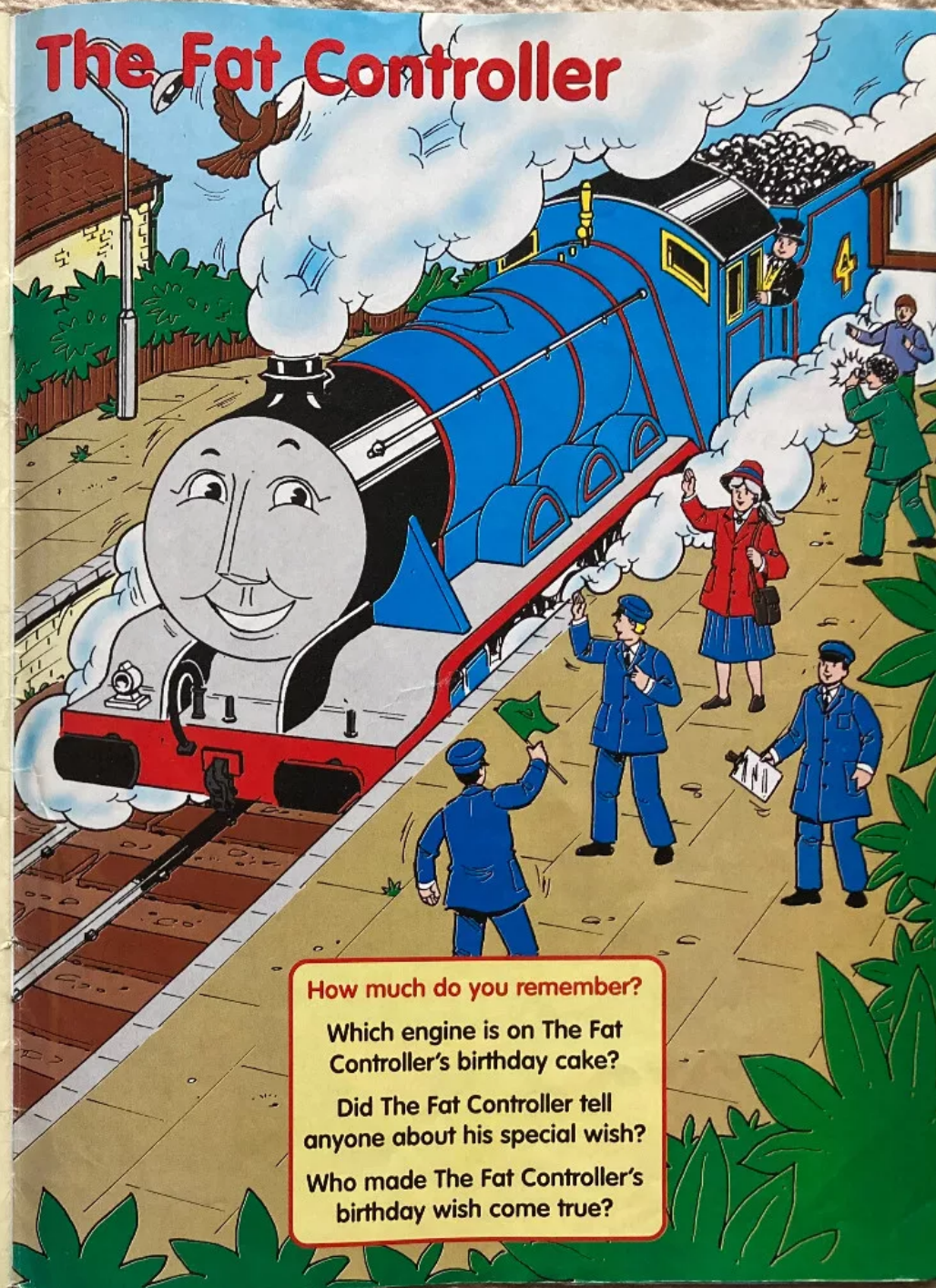
...he wished for an adventure,
but quite what he didn't know!



Suddenly his wife announced,
before the Sodor Press,



"On The Fat Controller's birthday,
He will drive the big express!"



How much do you remember?

Which engine is on The Fat
Controller's birthday cake?

Did The Fat Controller tell
anyone about his special wish?

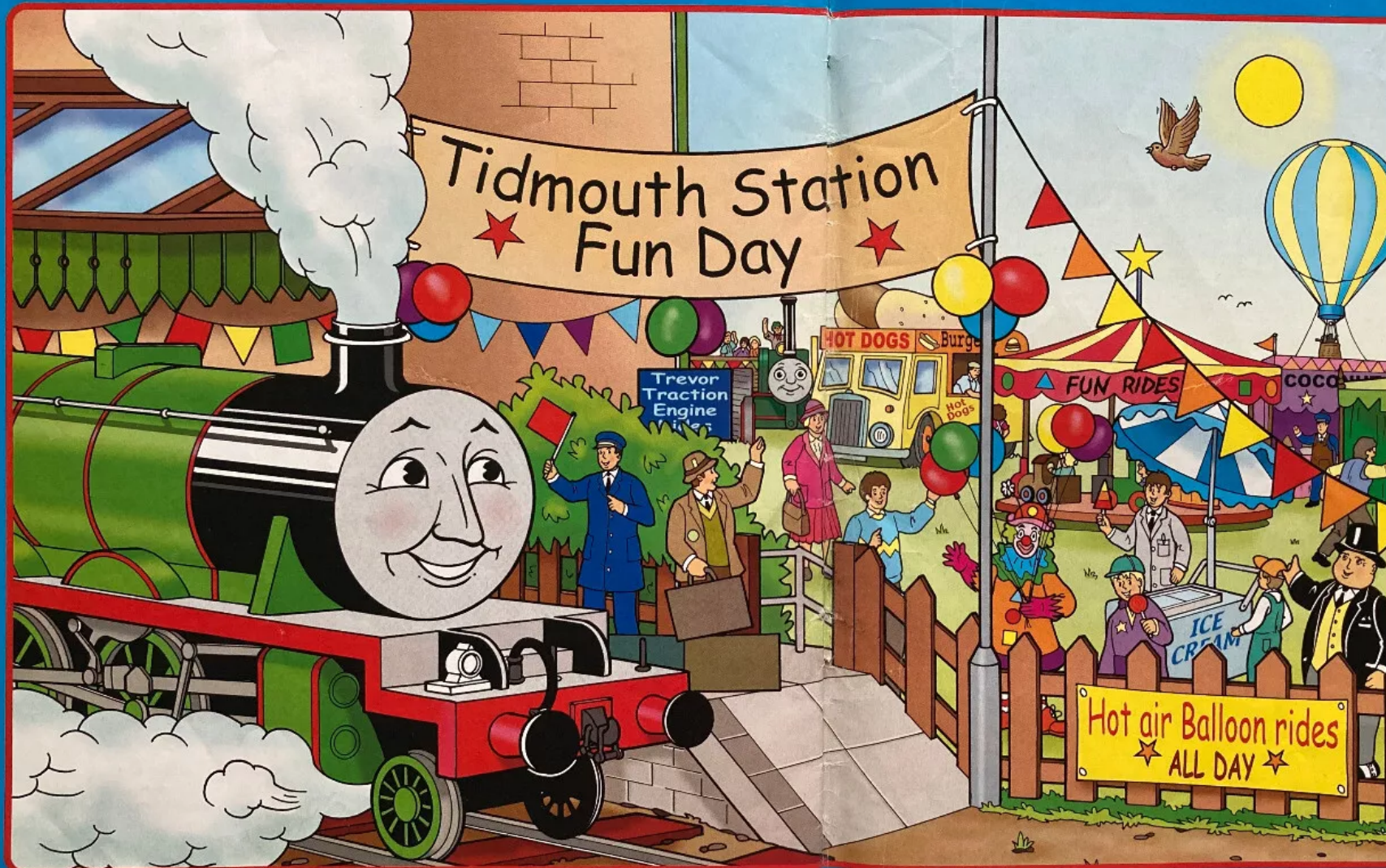
Who made The Fat Controller's
birthday wish come true?



Station Shapes!

Today, The Fat Controller is holding a special fun day at Tidmouth Station.

Look at the big picture and see if you can find all the shapes listed in the panel below.



Can you find all these shapes somewhere in the big picture?

a circle



a rectangle



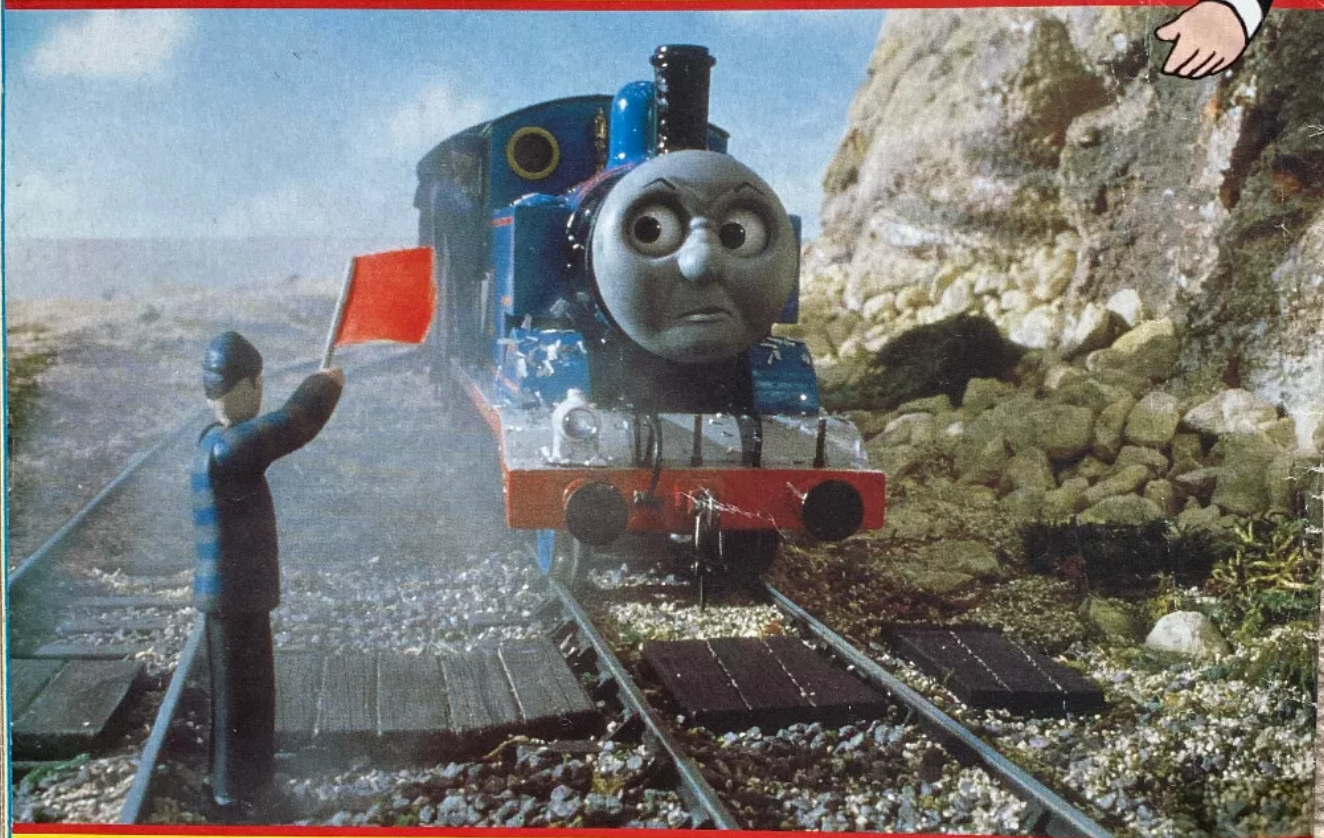
a triangle



a star



THOMAS & FRIENDS GOODBYE



Look out for our next issue!

All about danger!

PLUS A free  notepad!

Issue 9 on sale 3 May 2000